

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. through 11. (canceled)

12. (new) A method for the treatment of metallic materials, especially for the consolidation of the texture of metallic materials, comprising the steps of:

- a) providing a blank of a metallic material,
- b) heating said blank to a transformation temperature, and
- c) deforming said blank by twisting said blank about a longitudinal axis thereof and, at the same time, compressing said blank in the direction of said longitudinal axis,

where said steps (a) to (c) are carried out by substantially maintaining the form of the blank.

13. (new) A method according to claim 12, wherein during said compression said blank is subjected to a constant force.

14. (new) A method according to claim 12, wherein said compression step is preformed by subjecting said blank to a constant deformation speed.

15. (new) A method according to claim 12, wherein said blank is heated over its full length for the consolidation of the texture thereof.

16. (new) A method according to claim 12, wherein only the area of said blank is heated where the deformation is to be performed.

17. (new) A method according to claim 12, wherein said blank is heated by electrical induction heating.

18. (new) A method according to claim 12, wherein the deformation of said blank is performed at a temperature of about 1000°C.

19. (new) A method according to claim 12, wherein the deformation of said blank is performed at least partially under a protective gas cover.

20. (new) A method according to claim 12, wherein said metallic material is titanium aluminide.

21. (new) A method according to claim 20, wherein the titanium aluminide has the composition, in atomic percent, is as follows:

Ti - 47A1 - 3.7 (Nb, Cr, Mn, Si) - 0.5 B.